

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION ARA-14

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R 181420Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4180

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS  
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director  
(☒) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny  
Exemption(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Declassify: ( ) In Part (☒) In Full  
( ) Classify as \_\_\_\_ ( ) Extend as \_\_\_\_ ( ) Downgrade to \_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Declassify on \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 0402

E.O. 11652 GDS  
TAGS SHUM, PINS, AR  
SUBJECT ARGENTINE NATIONAL RAFAEL A PERROTTA

REF: 77 STATE 298247

1. RAFAEL PERROTTA, FORMER EDITOR-OWNER OF EL CHRONISTA COMMERCIAL, HAS NOT SURFACED SINCE HIS DISAPPEARANCE LAST JUNE AND, ACCORDING TO HIS SON, HE IS PRESUMED DEAD. THE LOCAL PRESS REPORTED IN EARLY JULY, 1977 THE DISAPPEARANCE OF PERROTTA FROM HIS SUBURBAN BUENOS AIRES HOME AS A POSSIBLE KIDNAPPING. AT THE TIME, BOTH THE FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL BUENOS AIRES POLICE DENIED HAVING ARRESTED OR DETAINED PERROTTA AND DENIED HAVING ANY KNOWLEDGE OF THE KIDNAPPING.

2. ACCORDING TO RUMORS CIRCULATED HERE IN PRESS CIRCLES, PERROTTAS PAPER HAD BEEN RECEIVING MONEY FOR SOME TIME FROM THE MONTONEROS IN EXCHANGE FOR USE OF THE NEWSPAPERS FILES ON CORPORATIONS. SOURCES SAID THAT PERROTTA HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED BY A MONTONERO CELL WHICH HAD BEEN PRESSURING HIM TO RETURN THE MONTONERO MONEY. SUBSEQUENTLY ANOTHER CELL DEMANDED A RANSOM, PART OF WHICH WAS PAID BY THE FAMILY WITHOUT HAVING RECEIVED ANY EVIDENCE THAT PERROTTA WAS STILL ALIVE. PERROTTA HAS NOT BEEN HEARD FROM SINCE AND HIS SON APPARENTLY BELIEVES THAT HIS

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FATHER IS DEAD.  
CASTRO

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